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Subject: Sodium Reactor Expert Panel Video
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Attachments: [Radon Potential Zone SR182Map.pdf](#)

Dear Mr. Johnson,

I cannot thank you enough for bringing to the Santa Susana Field Lab community the "Sodium Reactor Experiment Panel Workshop" this past August 29, 2009. This issue, what happened at the SRE, as you well know, is highly controversial. I felt that your panel was well balanced. We had a nuclear physicist - Dr. Paul Pickard from Sandia Labs, Dr. Richard Denning from Ohio State University, and we had Dr. Tom Cochran from the NRDC.

Dr. Cochran's testimony was extremely important to the community since the NRDC is a party in the lawsuit regarding the EIS for AREA IV.

I was very pleased that ETEC was finally able to post the videos of that 7 hour workshop on their website. I have only had the time to review two sections: the "Questions and Answers Session" and the "Diverse Perspectives on the SRE". I was glad to see that there were former SRE employees in those videos. And I felt that anyone that wanted to ask questions or comment was allowed to do so. I recognized many of our local community members in the two sections.

<http://www.etec.energy.gov/History/Major-Operations/SRE-Workshop-2009.html>

I know that the DOE has already had some of those employees on the SSFL site tour to see the "SRE" today. And I also know that the EPA is in the process of interviewing former employees. I have asked every former employee that I interviewed to please be interviewed by the DOE, EPA, and NIOSH..

I was so extremely disappointed that so many of the people who are copied here were unable to attend due to State budget issues, etc. This will give them the opportunity to review the Panel's testimony - and the various community perspectives.

It was stated that the next step is the work of the federal EPA to characterize the site. I look forward to the results of the EPA's Background studies. It was recommended that the EPA Sampling may lead to the need for similar workshops.

In my research, I have studied both the SRE, and every document that I could find that spoke about the health risks to the community. I have read both the UCLA and Boeing former worker studies.

When I hear someone say that their lung cancer was caused by working at the site - I have to question first - was he / she a smoker. But now, in my research, I have found a radon map for the Los Angeles area. So if the studies looked at census tract data for around the site, they would have to understand the Background levels of radon in the area as well.

Once again, I want to thank Thomas Johnson and the DOE for making this event and the video available to our community. ***And I want to also thank everyone that is copied here for all that they do to try to understand the contamination of the site.***

In closing, I want to say that this video is immensely important to those community members that believe that this one incident is causing them, their families, and even their pets to be ill.

There has been no better example of education to our community than this "SRE Expert Panel Workshop". I encourage each Responsible Party to have similar educational workshops. And I recommend status updates on a more frequent basis - monthly - from all Responsible Parties and all agency leaders. Like the Mastercard commercials - "**Education - priceless**".

And I would like the EPA to reconsider the allocation of funds to the Santa Susana Field Lab community for their EPA TASC program. We need their technical experts to read documents that are beyond the scope of the community. The West Hills Neighborhood Council made a formal request for that program. It should not be denied to one group because another does not find the need. The TASC program could work in conjunction with the DTSC and their ongoing DTSC Technical Workshops.

In the papers, the EPA is addressing "Environmental Justice". They are considering the Environmental Impacts on the Kettleman Hills community. The Governor is asking for studies on the Kettleman community. The residents of the Santa Susana Field Lab community also deserve Environmental Justice. I do hope that the EPA will understand that need and bring us TASC.

Thank you once again.

With respect to all,

Chris Rowe

Radon Potential Zone Map of Southern
Los Angeles County California

Regional

California Geological Survey

January 2005

